

Cage 6 Hornet

What Bitch!.....

The hornet is a nasty little beastly. Alone it can sneak up on you and inflict a painful sting. Together with others of its kind., it forms a swarm. Seemingly defenseless, if you didn't know better you'd simply brush it away, but beware: you are in the hornet's way.

Through criticism the hornet defends herself. It is the adult equivalent of what children do in tattling on each other. If you can make sure, that someone else gets the blame for the act then obviously you won't—this is the hornet's job in life.

So the hornet goes about dishing out blame for all to hear to make sure that no one blames her. One of her secret ploys is to criticize herself or deliberately invite others to criticize her. If she can plead guilty to a lesser crime, then you will not convict her of the greater crime.

In her Most obvious form, the hornet is a gossip. She goes about deliberately finding every wrong-doer she can so she can hide in the crowd. She has many superficial relationships, none deep, and they are all designed to get information on others for her gossip. She particularly enjoys small gatherings of two or three other people where she can have "intimate"

talks about the people who are not there.

To accomplish this at home she will talk to her children about the father, to the husband about the children, and to the children about each other.

Pretty soon she has managed to make her house a place of mutual recrimination with everyone looking to accuse everyone else all the time.

Hornets come in two forms: the confessor and the collector of self-criticism.

The confessor-hornet gives the appearance of openness by seeking opportunities to confess her faults. She immunizes herself to criticism by taking continual small doses so as not to have any reaction to the big doses. The confessor hornet has a little trick which works this way: If I admit that I have done something, then it is over and done with and forgiven; then I can do it again. This is a technique commonly used by alcoholics and drug addicts.

Another variant is the criticize-me-hornet. She disarms everyone by inviting their criticism and, if they will not offer it, she will say it about herself. The criticize-me-hornet collects criticisms.

Both the confessor-hornet and the criticize-me-hornet operate pretty much the same way. At the Office, she expects to do things wrong. If the job is simple she'll find some silly way to mess it up so she gets her daily

dose of criticism. If the job is more difficult she'll delay to the last minute. No matter what anyone else says she always knows her work is inadequate. Since she expects criticism, she doesn't know what to do with praise and tends to brush it off.

At home she bumbles through things, forgets tasks, burns the dinner, and seems unable to manage. She is quick to admit her errors: "I'm sorry the roast didn't turn out." Tasting it, her husband says, "No, dear, it's fine." "No, it isn't, you're just trying to be nice." In time, her husband and children learn to cooperate and give her her daily dose of criticism:

With friends the hornet produces a constant stream of harmless errors. She's late for appointments, she forgets things at home, she makes small social errors and then invites the condemnation with phrases like "that was stupid of me, wasn't it?" or "I never seem to do anything right, do I" or "I can't see why you put up with me, I'm so clumsy."

There is also another hornet species: the sneaky one. Like the gossipy hornet the sneaky hornet gathers dirt but waits until just the right time to sting you with it.

Around the office the sneaky hornet is particularly dangerous. She draws you into conversations and finds out about what you are doing and not doing and how things are going; and when she is ready...she knifes you

in the back. The sneaky hornet is the office politician. Looking always for the vital areas, she moves quickly and thus gets you nicely out of the way of her next promotion.

At home the sneaky hornet builds up hurt points. She 'invites her family to let down their guard...and then she swoops down on them. She invites her child to go to the cookie jar so she can yell at him for taking too many cookies. She cooks a lot of food for her husband so she can criticize him for being overweight. She spends a lot of Money in one area so that she can criticize her husband for not having enough to spend in another area. For example, she buys a lot of clothes so she can criticize him about the furniture; or she spends a lot of money on 'the house so she can criticize him because she can't buy clothes. Knowing that children get dirty when they play, she has her children change clothes well before they are going somewhere so that by the time they are ready to go the Clothes are dirty. She schedules dinner for a precise time so if anyone is

even five minutes late, the dinner is ruined. She drives her husband to drink and then criticizes him when he drinks (the alcoholic's wife). She overprotects her children and then accuses them of clinging. She makes herself physically unattractive-and then accuses her husband of not being sexually interested in her.

The sneaky hornet is ever alert to errors of social etiquette. She is quick

to pick up on your slights, your mannerisms, your ways of doing things that differ from her own. She may invite friends to her home on two successive occasions so she can complain that they never invite her to their home. The sneaky hornet can be a real pain in the neck.